

The McAlester City Council met in a Special session on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 5:00 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, May 7, 2020, at 4:42 P.M.

Call to Order

Mayor Browne called the meeting to order at 5:06 P.M., after slight delay due to technical issues connecting Councilmembers phone calls.

Roll Call

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present in Person: Weldon Smith, James Brown, & Maureen Harrison
Present via Teleconference: Cully Stevens, Steve Cox, Zach Prichard & John Browne
Absent: None
Presiding: John Browne, Mayor

Staff Present in Person: Peter Stasiak, City Manager & Cora Middleton, City Clerk
Staff Present via Teleconference: William J. Ervin, City Attorney

Audit & Finance Advisory Board present: Carl Gullick, Sandra Henslee & Paul Bishop

Scheduled Business

WORKSHOP

1. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget.

Manager Stasiak addressed the Council recapping what had been reviewed at the last meeting. He stated that the City was planning on experiencing a major revenue shortfall. He stated that thirty-eight (38) employees that had been furloughed, there eleven (11) budgeted positions that were open but would only be filled when funding was available. He then commented that there were fourteen (14) positions that had been opened with the retirements, which were unfunded.

Manager Stasiak reviewed the budget items that had been frozen, suspended, eliminated, and cut. He stated that the General Fund was expected to have a revenue shortfall of \$2.354 million, MPWA was expected to have a revenue shortfall of \$860 thousand and the Bond payments w would have a shortfall of \$1.149 million. He stated the total of those shortfalls was \$4.363 million.

There was discussion of working with the Krebs Animal Control in vicious dog calls, how demolitions would be handled in the coming fiscal year, what codification was and what it affected, activities at the Expo and how they would be handled, what the services line item in the Economic Development department was for, what the Tourism revenues were based on, when the City would get those funds, when sales tax receipts would be received by the City, how Use Tax seemed to be on budget, what happens with the Airport Grant funds and how they could be set aside until a project was developed, the funding for the OKLA Theater, if there would be any inmate labor used, clarification of the budget headings, moving the funds for demolitions to infrastructure needs, if there was a prioritized list of projects if revenue started coming in, looking at the water and sewer plants and moving funds from street reconstruction, maintaining parks, if the City had an engineer, Pride having a volunteer program to help mow the parks, mowing the edges of the cemeteries, mowing the cemeteries for the Memorial Day weekend by pulling employees from other areas, what the subscriptions accounts were for, and having funds allocated that were moved to other areas if needed.

Carl Gullick, 1425 Timber Lane addressed the Council asking if the City knew what amount of Federal aid might be received, he commented on the Use Tax assumptions and then commended the City for the job that had been done preparing the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget.

Manager Stasiak commented that the Use Tax projections were a ten percent (10 %) increase and \$600 thousand for the Retail Development.

Manager Stasiak commented that the economy would come back but it would be slowly.

No action was taken on this item.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilman Smith moved for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harrison.

There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilmembers Smith, Stevens, Cox, Brown, Harrison, Prichard & Mayor Browne

NAY: None

Mayor Browne declared the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

ATTEST:

John Browne, Mayor

Cora Middleton, City Clerk